

AMENDMENT(S) TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application. Please amend claims 1 and 3, and add new claims 16 to 19 as follows:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A device for damping the movement of movable furniture parts in their closing region, preferably for damping the closing movement of doors, flaps or drawers, comprising

a housing (7, 8) ~~which can~~ structured and arranged to be fastened to a fixed wall part or carcass part (3),

~~in which housing (7, 8)~~ a lever (6) is pivotably held or a plunger is slidably guided in said housing (7, 8)

~~with said lever or plunger being~~ arranged to be pivoted or slid to its closing region by the movable furniture part (1) and means for damping the closing movement comprising an ~~thus by way of~~ at least two stage gear means ~~with~~ having a speed increasing ratio and impinging on a rotation damper (14, 15) or ~~on the~~ piston of a damping cylinder.

2. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim 1, wherein the lever (5), which is held in the housing (7, 8), carries a toothed segment (23) concentrically to its bearing axis (17), with said toothed segment intermeshing with a pinion (20) which is held in the housing, which

pinion interacts with a toothed wheel (18) which is attached to ~~the~~ a front-end journal (16) of the rotation damper (14).

3. (Currently amended) ~~The device according to claim 2;~~ A device for damping the movement of movable furniture parts in their closing region, preferably for damping the closing movement of doors, flaps or drawers, comprising:

a housing (7, 8) which can be fastened to a fixed wall part or carcass part (3), in which housing (7, 8) a lever (6) is pivotably held or a plunger is slidably guided, with said lever or plunger being pivoted or slid to its closing region by the movable furniture part (1), thus by way of at least two stage gear means with a speed increasing ratio impinging on a rotation damper (14, 15) or on a piston of a damping cylinder;

wherein the lever (5), which is held in the housing (7, 8), carries a toothed segment (23) concentrically to its bearing axis (17), with said toothed segment intermeshing with a pinion (20) which is held in the housing, which pinion interacts with a toothed wheel (18) which is attached to a front-end journal (16) of the rotation damper (14).

wherein the pinion (20) comprises two toothed segments (21, 22), of which one segment (21) of smaller radius intermeshes with the toothed segment (23) of the lever (6), while the toothed segment (22) of the pinion (20) of larger radius intermeshes with the toothed wheel (18) of the rotation damper (14).

4. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim 2, wherein the lever (6) which is used for damping is attached to a journal (17) which is ~~the~~ a front-end journal of a second rotation damper (15) which is held in the housing.

5. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein the lever (6) is impinged upon in the opening direction by a spring (26).

6. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 5, wherein the rotation damper or dampers (14, 15) offers/offer less resistance in the opening direction than in the closing direction.

7. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 3, wherein the lever (6) which is used for damping is attached to a journal (17) which is the front-end journal of a second rotation damper (15) which is held in the housing.

8. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 2, wherein the lever (6) is impinged upon in the opening direction by a spring (26).

9. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 3, wherein the lever (6) is impinged upon in the opening direction by a spring (26).

10. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 4, wherein the lever (6) is impinged upon in the opening direction by a spring (26).

11. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 7, wherein the lever (6) is impinged upon in the opening direction by a spring (26).

12. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 8, wherein the rotation damper or dampers (14, 15) offers/offer less resistance in the opening direction than in the closing direction.

13. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 9, wherein the rotation damper or dampers (14, 15) offers/offer less resistance in the opening direction than in the closing direction.

14. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 10, wherein the rotation damper or dampers (14, 15) offers/offer less resistance in the opening direction than in the closing direction.

15. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 11, wherein the rotation damper

or dampers (14, 15) offers/offer less resistance in the opening direction than in the closing direction.

16. (New) A device for damping the closing movement of movable furniture parts in their closing region comprising:

a housing (7, 8) which can be fastened to a fixed wall part or body part (3), in which housing (7, 8) a lever (6) is pivotably held, with said lever being pivoted to its closing region in response to closing movement of a movable furniture part (1) by way of at least two stage gear means with a speed increasing ratio impinging on a rotation damper (14, 15).

17. (New) The device of claim 16 further including a rotatably mounted pinion having a large radius toothed segment (22) and a small radius toothed segment (21), wherein the large radius toothed segment (22) intermeshes with a toothed wheel (18) cooperatively associated with the rotation damper (14) of the rotation damper, and the small radius toothed segment (21) intermeshes with a toothed segment (23) of the lever (6).

18. (New) An article of furniture comprising:

a body

a panel attached to the body which is movable between an open and closed position

a damping device attached to a wall of the body for damping the closing movement of the panel, said damping device including a housing (7, 8) enclosing a pivotably mounted lever (6), said lever being pivoted to a closing region in response to closing movement of the panel by way of at least two stage gear means with a speed increasing ratio impinging on a rotation damper (14, 15).

19. (New) The article of claim 18 wherein the damping device further includes a rotatably mounted pinion having a large radius toothed segment (22) and a small radius toothed segment (21), wherein the large radius toothed segment (22) intermeshes with a toothed wheel (18) cooperatively associated with the rotation damper (14), and the small radius toothed segment (21) intermeshes with a toothed segment (23) of the lever (6).